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April 21, 2004

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: **Ex Parte Notice**, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service;
CC Docket No. 96-45

Nextel Partners, Inc. Petitions for Designation as an Eligible
Telecommunications Carrier

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Federal Communications Commission's ("Commission's") Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this letter provides notice that on April 21, 2004, Donald J. Manning, Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of Nextel Partners, Inc. ("Nextel Partners"), and Albert J. Catalano of Catalano & Plache, PLLC, Counsel for Nextel Partners, Inc., met with Sheryl J. Wilkerson, Legal Advisor to FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell, to discuss issues pertaining to Nextel Partners' petitions for eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") status pending before the Commission.

During the meeting, Messrs. Manning and Catalano, on behalf of Nextel Partners, presented to Ms. Wilkerson the content of the March 24, 2004 filings supplementing Nextel Partners' ETC petitions in the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Virginia. Nextel Partners also inquired about the procedural status of the pending ETC petitions and urged that the Commission complete processing of the petitions as expeditiously as possible.

An original and two copies of this letter are being filed with the Secretary's Office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 338-3200.

Respectfully submitted,



Albert J. Catalano
Counsel for Nextel Partners, Inc.

cc: Sheryl J. Wilkerson
Legal Advisor to FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell

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